

REMARKS

Status of the claims

Claims 1,4,5,7 and 9-24 are pending in the application. Applicant recognizes with satisfaction that claims 1,4,5,7,17,18,23 and 24 are allowed. Claims 19-22 remain rejected.

Claim rejection

Claims 19-22 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Dietrich et al (US 5,731,180) in view of WO97/2913 (JOHN INNES CENTRE), for reasons set forth in previous office action.

Applicant hereby cancels claim 19 and amends claims 20-22 so as to depend on claim 1 instead of claim 19.

CONCLUSION

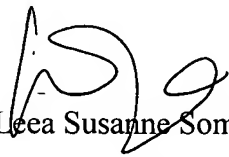
Applicant has canceled claim 19 and amended claims 20-22 to make them dependent on currently allowed claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claim 20-22.

If a telephone conference or interview in person would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 202-463 3275.

Respectfully,

DODDS AND ASSOCIATES

By


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cc. Jonathan Gressel